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FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT
moving ideas to impact

July 27, 2004

Congressman Steny H. Hoyer
U.S. House of Representatives
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Attn: Gina Mahony

Dear Congressman Hoyer:

We commend you for introducing the Full-Service Community Schools Act (H.R. 4585). This legislation is an important step forward to help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of federal programs affecting children and youth. Moreover, the Community Schools Act is aligned with the findings of the White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth indicating a need for interagency collaboration, better accountability, and better connections for youth and their families. This legislation will also be reinforced and strengthened by the Federal Youth Coordination Act (H.R. 4703), which would create a federal youth development council to oversee the coordination and alignment of all efforts targeting disadvantaged youth. H.R. 4703 serves as a natural complement to the Full-Service Community Schools Act.

The Forum for Youth Investment is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to helping communities and the nation make sure all young people are "ready by 21" — ready for work, college and life. This goal requires that young people have the supports, opportunities and services needed to prosper and contribute where they live, learn, work, play and make a difference. The Forum provides youth and adult leaders with the information, technical assistance, training, network support and partnership opportunities needed to increase the quality and quantity of youth investment and youth involvement.

Sincerely,

Karen Pittman
Executive Director, The Forum for Youth Investment
President, Impact Strategies, Inc.